

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 12-20, 22-36, 38-43 and 45-50 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 9, 10, 12, 13, 17-19, 23, 25-35, 41, 42 and 48 are independent claims. By this amendment, claims 1-10, 12-15, 17-19, 23, 25-35, 41, 42 and 48 are amended. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully solicited.

I. THE CLAIMS DEFINE PATENTABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office Action rejects:

(1) claims 25, 26, 29, 30, 33-36, 38-43, 45-48 and 50 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,687,332 to Kurahashi et al. (hereafter Kurahashi);

(2) claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 13-20, 22-24, 27, 28, 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,764,235 to Hunt et al. (hereafter Hunt);

(3) claims 10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,720,013 to Uda et al. (hereafter Uda);

(4) claims 4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hunt in view of Uda; and

(5) claim 49 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Uda in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,926,154 to Hirono.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Claims Are Not Anticipated by Kurahashi

Applicants respectfully submit that Kurahashi fails to teach or suggest each and every feature as set forth in the claimed invention.

In particular, Kurahashi at least fails to teach or suggest the film image data being transmitted between an image server and a client computer and/or the film image data being subjected to display direction conversion processing, as set forth in independent claims 25, 26, 29, 30, 33-35, 41, 42 and 48.

For example, in the claimed invention, an image on a film is read into the input/output workstation 15. The film image data is saved as printing image data under the control of the image server 10. The longitudinal/transverse information relating to the image data is stored. The film image data is subjected to color space conversion processing and is stored as printing image data. Editing image data having a lower resolution and thumbnail image data having a still lower resolution are generated from the printing image data. The editing image data and the thumbnail image data are then subjected to display direction conversion processing so that they can be displayed in a correct direction, and are stored in correspondence with the printing image data. (see Applicants' specification, page 37 to page 38).

In contrast to the present invention, Kurahashi fails to teach or suggest subjecting film image data to display direction conversion processing prior to transmitting to the client computer, as set forth in the claimed invention. Kurahashi merely discloses sending editing data information, such as resolution and color information, for display. (see Kurahashi, column 8, lines 1-3). No mention of any display direction information is taught by Kurahashi. Furthermore, Kurahashi fails to teach sending information relating to the type of display. Only resolution and color information is transmitted to the image server of Kurahashi. Whereas the claimed invention transmits type, resolution and color information, as set forth in claim 29.

Furthermore, nothing in Kurahashi whatsoever is directed to

re-editing of the initially edited image. Secondly, even assuming *arguendo* that Kurahashi et al. analyze editing data (col. 7, line 3), Kurahashi still does not judge whether initial editing or subsequent re-editing is allowed based on a transmitted execution command, as claimed. In col. 6 of Kurahashi et al. (lines 45-56), all that is described are the elements and their functions of Fig. 3. None of these elements teach of subsequent re-editing in any respect, especially re-editing based on a transmitted execution command.

According to MPEP §2131, "a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. Of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ...claims." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claims, but this is not an *ipsissimis verbis* test, i.e., identity of terminology is not required. In *re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 ( Fed. Cir. 1990).

Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action has failed to establish the required *prima facie* case of anticipation because the cited reference, Kurahashi, fails to teach or suggest each and every feature as set forth in the claimed invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 25, 26, 29, 30, 33-35, 41, 42 and 48 are allowable over Kurahashi for at least the reasons noted above.

As for each of the dependent claims not particularly discussed above, these claims are also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above regarding their corresponding independent claims,

and/or for the further features claimed therein.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 25, 26, 29, 30, 33-36, 38-43, 45-48 and 50 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kurahashi is respectfully solicited.

The Claims Are Not Anticipated by Hunt

Applicants respectfully submit that Hunt, like Kurahashi, fails to teach or suggest each and every feature as set forth in the claimed invention.

In particular, Hunt at least fails to teach or suggest the film image data being transmitted between an image server and a client computer and/or the film image data being subjected to display direction conversion processing, as set forth in independent claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17-19, 23, 27, 28, 31 and 32. Furthermore, Hunt fails to teach or suggest the client computer transmitting reduced film data to the image server, as set forth in at least independent claims 27 and 31.

Hunt expressly discloses that its system is designed for transmitting *graphical* images from a server to a client at a user's selectable resolution. However, Hunt fails to teach or suggest the processing of *film* image data or transmitting reduced film image data from a client computer to the server, as set forth in the claimed invention.

Furthermore, Hunt discloses a handshake procedure wherein the server receives a request for graphical image from the client and also receives image control information. The server determines the appropriate amount of graphical data to transmit based on the control information and transmits the appropriate amount based on the control information. However, Hunt fails to disclose the client reducing film image data and transmitting the reduced data to the server.

In contrast to the claimed invention, the server of the present invention receives a request for a thumbnail film image wherein the request includes the request and the TCP/IP address of the client. Upon receiving this request, the server retrieves the thumbnail image and transmits the thumbnail film image data to the client. No image control information processing is necessary for the transmitting of the thumbnail image from the server. After the client selects an image to be printed from the thumbnail images, then display device information is sent to and processed by the server.

In Hunt, control information (display device information) must be processed before any graphical image data is to be transmitted from the server. However, in the claimed invention, the thumbnail film image data is transmitted from the server simply from receiving the request to do so.

According to MPEP §2131, "a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. Of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ...claims." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claims, but this is not an *ipsissimis verbis* test, i.e., identity of terminology is not required. *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 ( Fed. Cir. 1990).

Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action has failed to establish the required *prima facie* case of anticipation because the cited reference, Hunt, fails to teach or suggest each and every feature as set forth in the claimed invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17-19, 23, 27, 2831 and 32 are allowable over Hunt for at least the reasons noted above.

As for each of the dependent claims not particularly discussed above, these claims are also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above regarding their corresponding independent claims, and/or for the further features claimed therein.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 13-20, 22-24, 27, 28, 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hunt is respectfully solicited.

The Claims Are Not Anticipated by Uda

Applicants respectfully submit that Uda fails to teach or suggest each and every feature as set forth in the claimed invention.

In particular, Uda, like Kurahashi and Hunt, at least fails to teach or suggest the transmitting color converted film image data to the client after subjecting the color converted film image data to display direction conversion processing, as noted above. The arguments noted above pertaining to the display direction conversion processing and the film image data are equally applied to Uda.

Furthermore, Uda is completely silent on the second color conversion device.

According to MPEP §2131, "a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. V. Union Oil Co. Of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ...claims." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226,

1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claims, but this is not an *ipsisssimis verbis* test, i.e., identity of terminology is not required. In *re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 ( Fed. Cir. 1990).

Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action has failed to establish the required *prima facie* case of anticipation because the cited reference, Uda, fails to teach or suggest each and every feature as set forth in the claimed invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 10 and 12 are allowable over Uda for at least the reasons noted above.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Uda is respectfully solicited.

The claims Are Not Obvious over Hunt and Uda

Applicants also respectfully submit that the combination of Hunt and Uda fails to make up for the deficiencies found in each individual reference, because the combination of Hunt and Uda fails to teach or suggest each and every feature as set forth in the claimed invention. The arguments applied above are also applicable to the combination of Hunt and Uda.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully solicited.

The claims Are Not Obvious over Uda and Hirono

Applicants also respectfully submit that the combination of Uda and Hirono fails to make up for the deficiencies found in each individual reference, because the combination fails to teach or suggest each and every claimed feature. Hirono fails to make up

Docket No.: 0905-0206P  
App. No.: 09/107,486

for the deficiencies found in Uda noted above.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 49 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully solicited.

## II. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Carolyn T. Baumgardner (Reg. No. 41,345) at (703) 205-8000 to schedule a Personal Interview.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant(s) respectfully petition for a two month extension of time for filing a reply in connection with the present application, and the required fee of \$400.00 is attached hereto.



**VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

*The claims are amended as follows:*

1. (Three Times Amended) An image communication system in which an image server and a client computer having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, the image server storing film image data that has undergone display direction conversion processing, the film image data representing an image,

wherein said client computer comprises:

a first transmission device transmitting, to said image server, a command to transmit a thumbnail of the film image data that has undergone direction conversion processing and stored in said image server; and

a second transmission device transmitting, to said image server, display information relating to said display device, said first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of film image data that said image server is required to process, and

wherein said image server comprises:

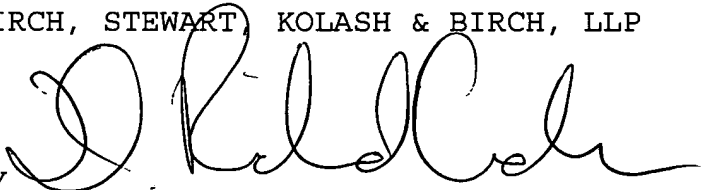
a data quantity reduction device reducing the data quantity of the film image data to be transmitted to editing image data and further reducing to thumbnail image data, in response to the image transmission command transmitted from said first transmission device transmitting the thumbnail image data to the client computer, in response to [on the basis of] the display information transmitted from said second transmission device transmitting the editing image data to the client computer, the

Docket No.: 0905-0206P  
App. No.: 09/107,486

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment from or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, the extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

thumbnail image data and the editing image data displayed in a correct direction on the display device due to the display direction conversion processing, and

an image data transmission device transmitting, to said client computer, the reduced film image data.

2. (Twice Amended) The image communication system according to claim 1,

wherein the display information is information relating to the maximum number of colors which can be displayed on said display device, and

wherein said data quantity reduction device includes color reduction means for reducing a number of colors of an image represented by the editing image data to be transmitted on the basis of the information relating to the maximum number of colors.

3. (Twice Amended) The image communication system according to claim 1,

wherein the display information is information relating to the resolution of said display device, and

wherein said data quantity reduction device includes thinning means for thinning out the editing image data on the basis of the information relating to the resolution, to be transmitted in response to the image transmission command, so as to reduce the data quantity of the film image data.

4. (Twice Amended) The image communication system according to claim 1, wherein said image server further includes:

a printer for printing an image, and

color conversion processing means for performing color

conversion processing [of] on the reduced film image data on the basis of data representing characteristics of said display device.

5. (Three Times Amended) An image server used in an image communication system in which the image server and a client computer having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, wherein the image server stores film image data that has undergone display direction conversion processing, the film image data representing an image, comprising:

a receiving device receiving a command from a first transmission device in said client computer to transmit [the] a reduced film image data generated from the film image data and stored in said image server, and to display information relating to said display device that is transmitted from a second transmission device from said client computer, said first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of image data that said image server is required to process;

a data quantity reduction device reducing the data quantity of the film image data to be transmitted on the basis of received display information; and

an image data transmission device transmitting, to said client computer, the reduced film image data subjected to display direction conversion processing such that the film image data is displayed in correct direction on said display device.

6. (Twice Amended) The image server according to claim 5, wherein the display information is information relating to the maximum number of colors which can be displayed on said

display device, and

wherein said data quantity reduction device includes color reduction means for reducing a number of colors of an image represented by the film image data to be transmitted on the basis of the information relating to the maximum number of colors.

7. (Twice Amended) The image server according to claim 5, wherein the display information is information relating to the resolution of said display device, and

wherein said data quantity reduction device includes thinning means for thinning out the film image data to be transmitted on the basis of the information relating to the resolution.

8. (Twice Amended) The image server according to claim 5, further comprising:

a printer for printing an image, and

color conversion processing means for performing color conversion processing of the reduced film image data on the basis of data representing characteristics of said display device.

9. (Three Times Amended) A client computer having a display device used in an image communication system in which an image server storing film image data representing an image and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

a first transmission device transmitting, to said image server, a command to transmit [the] a thumbnail film image data generated from the film image data stored in said image server, the thumbnail image data having been subjected to display direction conversion processing;

a second transmission device transmitting, to said

image server, display information relating to said display device, said first and second transmission devices transmitting the respective command and display information to reduce the amount of film image data that said image server is required to process; and

a receiving device receiving the film image data reduced on the basis of the display information in said image server.

10. (Twice Amended) An image server used in an image communication system in which the image server having a printer and a client computer having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

an image data reading device for reading film image data representing an image;

a first color conversion device for performing first color conversion processing on the read film image data in accordance with a characteristic of the printer;

a printer controller for controlling the printer so as to print an image from the first color converted film image data;

a second color conversion device for performing second color conversion processing on the read film image data in accordance with a characteristic of the display device; and

an image data transmission device for transmitting the second color converted film image data to said client computer after subjecting the second color converted film image data to display direction conversion processing so that the film image is displayed on said display device in a correct direction.

12. (Twice Amended) A method of transmitting film image data in an image server used in an image communication system in which the image server having a printer and a client computer

having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

reading film image data representing an image;

performing a first color conversion processing on the read film image data in accordance with a characteristic of the printer;

controlling the printer so as to print an image from the first color converted film image data;

performing second color conversion processing on the read film image data in accordance with a characteristic of the display device; and

transmitting the second color converted film image data to said client computer after subjecting the second color converted film image data to display direction conversion processing so that the film image is displayed on said display device in a correct direction.

13. (Three Times Amended) An image communication system in which an image server and an image data receiver having a display device are capable of communicating with each other,

wherein said image server comprises:

an image display data transmission device for transmitting image display data for displaying a plurality of sample film images [images] in side by side fashion on the display device for comparison and selection by a user, each of said sample film images having different characteristics and being transmitted to said image data receiver after subjecting the sample film images to display direction conversion processing so that the sample film images are displayed in a correct direction, and

wherein said image data receiver comprises:

an image characteristics setting device for receiving

the transmitted image display data, for displaying the plurality of sample film images on said display device on the basis of the received image display data, and for determining characteristics relating to the film image selected from the displayed sample images; and

an image characteristics data transmission device for transmitting data representing the determined image characteristics to said image server.

14. (Twice Amended) The image communication system according to claim 13, wherein said image display data transmission device transmits the image display data representing the plurality of film images having different tonalities to said image data receiver.

15. (Twice Amended) The image communication system according to claim 13,

wherein said image server further includes an image data transmission device for transmitting, if said image data receiver can change the characteristics of the image displayed on said display device, film image data whose characteristics have not been adjusted, while transmitting, if said image data receiver cannot change the characteristics of the image displayed on said display device, film image data whose characteristics has been adjusted in accordance with the image characteristics data transmitted from said image characteristics data transmission device to said image data receiver.

17. (Three Times Amended) An image data receiver having a display device used in an image communication system in which an image server and the image data receiver are capable of



communicating with each other, comprising:

an image characteristics setting device for receiving the image display data for displaying a plurality of sample film images in side by side fashion on the display device for comparison and selection by a user, each of said sample film images having different characteristics and being transmitted from said image server after having been subjected to display direction conversion processing so that the sample film images are displayed in a correct direction, for displaying the plurality of sample film images on said display device on the basis of the received image display data, and for determining characteristics relating to the film image selected from the displayed sample film images; and

an image characteristics data transmission device transmitting data representing the determined image characteristics to said image server.

18. (Three Times Amended) In an image communication system in which an image server and an image data receiver having a display device are capable of communicating with each other, an image communication method comprising:

transmitting image display data for displaying a plurality of sample film images in side by side fashion on the display device for comparison and selection by a user, each of said sample film images having different characteristics, said image display data being transmitted from said image server to said image data receiver;

receiving said transmitted image display in said image data receiver;

displaying the plurality of sample film images on said display device on the basis of the received image display data

after subjecting the sample film images to display direction conversion processing so that the sample film images are displayed in a correct direction;

determining characteristics relating to the film image selected from the displayed sample film images; and

transmitting data representing the determined image characteristics from said image data receiver to said image server.

19. (Twice Amended) A client computer used in an image communication system in which an image server having an image output device for outputting [an] a film image and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

an image data quantity reduction device for reducing the data quantity of film image data to be transmitted to said image server, so that the data quantity of the film image data to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the film image data representing the film image to be outputted from said image output device; and

an image data transmission device for transmitting the reduced film image data to said image server,

wherein said image data quantity reduction device further includes:

print image area designation means for designating an image area to be printed of an image represented by film image data of one frame; and

partial image data extraction means for extracting partial image area data representing the designated image area from said film image data of one frame.

23. (Twice Amended) A client computer used in an image communication system in which an image server and the client

computer are capable of communicating with each other,  
comprising:

a compression rate setting device for setting the  
compression rate of film image data;

a calculation device for calculating information relating  
to time required for transmission in a case where the film image  
data compressed at the set compression rate is transmitted to said  
image server; and

a display device for displaying the information relating  
to the calculated time for transmission.

25. (Three Times Amended) An image communication system in  
which an image server and a client computer are capable of  
communicating with each other, wherein film image data and  
information relating to the film image data are transmitted from  
said client computer to said image server,

wherein said image server further includes:  
an image output device for outputting [an] a film image after  
subjecting the film image to display direction conversion  
processing, on the basis of the information relating to the film  
image data transmitted from said client computer; and

an image information transmission device for  
transmitting, to said client computer, the information relating to  
the film image data transmitted from said client computer,

wherein said client computer further includes a retrieval  
means for retrieving image data specified by the information  
relating to the film image data transmitted from said image server,  
and

wherein said image output device and said image  
information transmission device in said image server, and said  
retrieval means in said client computer are each separate and

distinct components within the image communication system.

26. (Three Times Amended) A client computer used in an image communication system in which an image server having a printer and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

a receiving device for receiving a part of printing template image data, which is transmitted from said image server and represents a part of a window-synthesizing user film image, and which is used for printing processing in said printer; and

a synthesis device for synthesizing the received part of the printing template image data and a part of user film image data stored in the client computer.

27. (Twice Amended) A method of transmitting film image data from a client computer to an image server, the client computer and the image server being used in an image communication system in which the image server, having an image output device for outputting an image and said client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

reducing the data quantity of film image data to be transmitted to said image server so that the data quantity of the image data to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the image data representing the image to be output; and

transmitting the reduced film image data to said image server

wherein the step of reducing further includes:

designating an image area to be printed of an image represented by image data of one frame; and

extracting partial image area data representing the

designated image area from said film image data of one frame.

28. (Twice Amended) A method of displaying information in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

setting the compression rate of film image data;

calculating information relating to time required for transmission in a case where the film image data compressed at the compression rate is transmitted to said image server; and

displaying the calculated information related to the transmission time.

29. (Three Times Amended) In an image communication system in which an image server and a client computer are capable of communicating with each other, an image communication method comprising:

transmitting film image data and information relating to the film image data from said client computer to said image server, the information relating to the film image data corresponding to the type and resolution of a display device in the client computer and the number of colors of the display device;

outputting, in said image server, an image on the basis of the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer;

transmitting the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer from said image server to said client computer; and

retrieving, in said client computer, film image data specified by the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said image server,

wherein said transmitting of film image data to and outputting the image from said image server, and said retrieving of film image data in said client computer, are performed by separate and distinct components in the image communication system.

30. (Three Times Amended) A method of synthesizing images in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server having a printer and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, comprising:

receiving a part of printing template image data, which is transmitted from said image server and represents a part of a window-synthesizing user film image, and which is used for printing processing in said printer; and

synthesizing the received part of the printing template film image data and a part of user film image data stored in the client computer.

31. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for transmitting film image data from a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server having an image output device for outputting an image and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

reduce the data quantity of film image to be transmitted to said image server such that the data quantity of the film image data to be transmitted is equal to or less than the data quantity of the film image data representing the image to be outputted from said image output device; and

transmit the reduced film image data to said image server wherein said program further controls film image data

reduction processing in the computer so as to designate an image area to be printed of an image represented by film image data of one frame, and extracts partial image area data representing the designated area from said film image data of one frame.

32. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for displaying information in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

set the compression rate of film image data;

calculate information relating to time required for transmission in a case where the film image data compressed at the set compression rate is transmitted to said image server; and

display the calculated information related to the transmission time.

33. (Three Times Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program used in an image communication system in which an image server and a client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

transmit film image data and information relating to the film image data from said client computer to said image server, the information relating to the film image data corresponding to the type and resolution of a display device in the client computer and the number of colors of the display device;

output, in said image server, an image on the basis of the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer;

transmit, from said image server to said client computer, the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said client computer, wherein the information transmitted has undergone display direction conversion processing; and

retrieve, in said client computer, image data specified by the information relating to the film image data transmitted from said image server,

wherein said transmitting of film image data to and outputting the image from said image server, and said retrieving of film image data in said client computer, are performed by separate and distinct components in the image communication system under the control of said program.

34. (Three Times Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for synthesizing film images in a client computer which is used in an image communication system in which an image server having a printer and the client computer are capable of communicating with each other, the program controlling the computer so as to:

receive a part of printing template image data, which is transmitted from said image server and represents a part of a window-synthesizing user film image, and which is used for printing processing in said printer; and

synthesize the received part of the printing template image data and a part of user film image data stored in the client computer.

35. (Three Times Amended) An image editing system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, an image represented by film image



data is edited in one of said client computers, and editing information relating to the edited film image is transmitted from said one client computer to said image server,

wherein execution data indicating that an image is edited for the first time or re-edited after said initial editing is transmitted from said one or another client computer to said image server prior to initial editing or subsequent re-editing the film image,

wherein said image server further includes:

a judgment device for judging whether or not the initial editing or re-editing after said initial editing is allowed on the basis of said transmitted execution, and

an allowance data transmission device for transmitting, when said judgement device judges that the initial editing or re-editing after said initial editing of the image is allowed, allowance data to said one or another client computer which has been allowed to edit or re-edit the film image, and

wherein said one or another client computer further includes a control device for performing the initial editing or re-editing after said initial editing in response to the receiving of allowance data.

41. (Three Times Amended) A client computer constituting a system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, comprising:

an image editing device for performing initial editing of [an] a film image and subsequent re-editing of the initially edited film image;

a receiving device for receiving data representing allowance of the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the film image, which is transmitted from the client computer; and

a controller for controlling the image editing device so as to execute initial editing of the film image, or subsequent re-editing of the edited image in response to reception of the allowance data by the receiving device.

42. (Three Times Amended) An image editing system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another, an image represented by image film data is edited in one of the client computers, and editing information relating to the edited image is transmitted from the one client computer to said image server,

wherein execution data indicating that [an] a film image is initially edited or re-edited after said initial editing is transmitted from said one or from another of said plurality of client computers to said image server prior to editing or re-editing the film image,

wherein said image server judges whether or not the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the film image is allowed on the basis of said transmitted execution data, and transmits, when said judgment device judges that the initial editing or subsequent re-editing of the film image is allowed, allowance data to said one or another client computer which has been allowed to edit or re-edit the film image, and

wherein said one or another client computer performs the initial editing or subsequent re-editing in response to receiving allowance data.

48. (Three Times Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for causing a client computer constituting a system in which an image server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another to edit

Docket No.: 0905-0206P

App. No.: 09/107,486

[an] a film image, and controlling said client computer so as to:  
receive data representing allowance of initial editing of  
[an] the film image and/or subsequent re-editing of said initially  
edited film image, the film image being transmitted from the client  
computer; and

control the image editing device so as to execute initial  
editing and/or subsequent re-editing of the film image in response  
to reception of the allowance data.